Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method for displaying information relating to one or more analysts' estimates for a selected future event comprising a step of:

displaying simultaneously, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, an indication of historical accuracy for that analyst based on selected criteria and the analyst's estimate for a future event.

2. A system for displaying information relating to one or more analysts' estimates comprising:

a) a database comprising:

information relating to one or more analysts' historical estimates for one or more securities;

actual results reported by the security for past events; and

information relating to individual analysts' estimates of future events for one or more securities; and

b) means for displaying simultaneously, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, an indication of historical accuracy for an analyst for one or more securities and the analyst's estimate of a future event for the one or more securities.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the estimates include at least quarterly or fiscal earnings estimates.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the estimates include at least revenue projections.

5.   The method of claim 1 wherein the estimates include at least a security's target price.

6.   The method of claim 1 wherein the estimates include at least cash flow projections.

7.   The method of claim 1 wherein the estimates include at least financial predictions.

8.   The method of claim 1 wherein the indication of historical accuracy for that analyst is for one or more securities and the analyst's estimate for a future event is for one or more securities.

9.   The method of claim 8 wherein the one or more securities include a set of securities in an industry.

10.   The method of claim 8 wherein the one or more securities include a set of securities in a sector.

11.   The method of claim 8 wherein the one or more securities include a set of securities followed by an analyst.

12.   The method of claim 8 wherein the one or more securities include a set of securities followed by a brokerage firm with which an analyst is associated.

13.   The method of claim 8 wherein the one or more securities include one or more user selected set of securities.

14.   The method of claim 13 comprising further steps of saving one or more user selected sets of securities and reusing one or more user selected sets of securities.

15.   The method of claim 1 wherein the indication of historical accuracy comprises a performance rating.

16.   The method of claim 1 wherein the indication of historical accuracy comprises a performance rating based on one or more performance metrics.

17.   The method of claim 1 wherein the indication of historical accuracy comprises a performance rating based on one or more performance metrics, and the rating comprises a scale of integers from of 1-N.

18.   The method of claim 17 wherein N=5.

19.   The method of claim 1 wherein the indication of historical accuracy comprises a relative accuracy score, comparing an analyst's accuracy relative to the accuracy of other analysts.

20.   The method of claim 1 wherein the indication of historical accuracy comprises an accuracy measurement based on a performance metric aggregated over a user selected number of quarters or fiscal periods.

21.   The method of claim 1 wherein one or more analysts are not identified by name, but an indication of historical performance and a current estimate is provided for the one or more unidentified analysts.

22.   The method of claim 1 wherein one or more analysts are identified by name and one or more are not, but an indication of historical performance and a current estimate is provided for each selected analyst.

23.   The method of claim 1 wherein for a user selected security, the step of displaying simultaneously, further comprises a step of displaying for analysts that have a current

estimate for that security, on an analyst by analyst basis, an indication of historical

accuracy for that analyst and the analyst's estimate of a future event for that security.

24.   The method of claim 1 wherein for a user selected security, the step of displaying

simultaneously, further comprises a step of displaying, only for top analysts that have a

current estimate for that security, on an analyst by analyst basis, an indication of

historical accuracy for that analyst and the analyst's estimate of future events for that

security.

25.   The method of claim 1 wherein for a user selected security, the step of displaying

simultaneously, further comprises a step of displaying, only for analysts that have a

predetermined track record of estimates for that security, on an analyst by analyst basis,

an indication of historical accuracy for that analyst and the analyst's estimate of a future

event for that security.

26.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of displaying simultaneously, further comprises a

step of displaying, along with the indication of historical accuracy for that analyst and the

analyst's estimate of future events for that security, other information relating to that

security.

27.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of

simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, a

graphical indication of whether an analyst's current estimate is above or below a

consensus estimate.

28.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, a graphical indication of whether an analyst's current estimate is above or below a consensus estimate and the difference between the analyst's estimate and the consensus.

29.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, a graphical indication of whether an analyst's current estimate exceeds a consensus estimate by a predetermined amount or is below a consensus estimate by a predetermined amount.

30.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, a graphical indication of whether an analyst's current estimate exceeds a consensus estimate by a predetermined amount or is below a consensus estimate by a predetermined amount, wherein the selected analysts are selected from a group of top analysts based on historical performance.

31.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, a graphical indication of whether an analyst's current estimate exceeds a consensus estimate by a predetermined amount or is below a consensus estimate by a predetermined amount and the difference between the analyst's estimate and the consensus, wherein the

112

selected analysts are selected from a group of top analysts based on historical

performance.

32. The method of claim 31 wherein the group of top analysts comprises one or more top

analysts based on the analyst's historical performance for a selected security.

33. The method of claim 31 wherein the group of top analysts comprises one or more top

analysts based on the analyst's historical performance for a selected sector.

34. The method of claim 31 wherein the group of top analysts comprises one or more top

analysts based on the analyst's historical performance for a selected industry.

35. The method of claim 31 wherein the group of top analysts comprises one or more top

analysts based on the analyst's historical performance for all securities for which the

analyst has issued estimates.

36. The method of claim 31 wherein the group of top analysts comprises one or more top

analysts based on the analyst's historical performance for a user selected group of

securities.

37. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of

simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, an

indication of historical accuracy for that analyst for one or more securities and the

analysts estimate of a future event for the one or more securities, wherein the order in

which the analysts appear is based on a rating of the analysts.

38. A method for displaying information relating to one or more analysts' recommendations

113

for a selected future event comprising a step of:

displaying simultaneously, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, an

indication of historical performance for that analyst based on selected criteria and

the analyst's recommendation for a future event.

39. A system of displaying information relating to security analyst's recommendations

comprising:

a database comprising:

information relating to individual security analysts' historical recommendations for one

or more securities;

actual results reported by the security for past events; and

information relating to individual security analysts' recommendations of future events for

a one or more securities;

a display means for displaying simultaneously, on an analyst by analyst basis, for

selected analysts, an indication of historical performance for an analyst for one or more

securities and the analyst's recommendation of a future event for the one or more

securities.

40. The method of claim 38 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of

simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, a

graphical indication of whether an analyst's current recommendation is above or below a

consensus recommendation.

41. The method of claim 38 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, a graphical indication of whether an analyst's current recommendation is above or below a consensus recommendation and the difference between the analyst's recommendation and the consensus.

42. The method of claim 38 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, a graphical indication of whether an analyst's current recommendation exceeds a consensus recommendation by a predetermined amount or is below a consensus recommendation by a predetermined amount.

43. The method of claim 38 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, a graphical indication of whether an analyst's current recommendation exceeds a consensus recommendation by a predetermined amount or is below a consensus recommendation by a predetermined amount, wherein the selected analysts are selected from a group of top analysts based on historical performance.

44. The method of claim 38 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, a graphical indication of whether an analyst's current recommendation exceeds a consensus recommendation by a predetermined amount or is below a consensus recommendation by

a predetermined amount and the difference between the analyst's recommendation and the consensus, wherein the selected analysts are selected from a group of top analysts based on historical performance.

45. The method of claim 44 wherein the group of top analysts comprises one or more top analysts based on the analyst's historical performance for a selected security.

46. The method of claim 44 wherein the group of top analysts comprises one or more top analysts based on the analyst's historical performance for a selected sector.

47. The method of claim 44 wherein the group of top analysts comprises one or more top analysts based on the analyst's historical performance for a selected industry.

48. The method of claim 44 wherein the group of top analysts comprises one or more top analysts based on the analyst's historical performance for all securities for which the analyst has issued recommendations.

49. The method of claim 44 wherein the group of top analysts comprises one or more top analysts based on the analyst's historical performance for a user selected group of securities.

50. The method of claim 38 wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of simultaneously displaying, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts, an indication of historical accuracy for that analyst for one or more securities and the analysts recommendation of a future event for the one or more securities, wherein the order in which the analysts appear is based on a rating of the analysts.

51. A method for displaying information relating to security analysts' estimates, the method comprising a step of:

displaying simultaneously, on an analyst by analyst basis, for selected analysts:

an indication of historical accuracy for that analyst for one or more securities;

current estimate of a future event associated with that analyst for the one or more securities; and

model information relating to that analyst.

52. The method of claim 51 wherein the model information comprises exclusion factors, wherein the step of simultaneously displaying further comprises a step of displaying an indication of whether an analyst's estimate is excluded.

53. The method of claim 51 wherein the model information comprises exclusion factors, wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of displaying an indication of whether an analyst's estimate is excluded and an indication of the reason for exclusion.

54. The method of claim 51 wherein the model information comprises weighting factors, wherein the step of displaying further comprises a step of displaying an indication of the weight applied to an analyst's current estimate.